

# Rhode Island Department of Health Pediatric to Adult Healthcare Transition Guidance & Checklist

Name	DOB	

Provider Action	Ages 13-14	Ages 15-16	Ages 17-19	Ages 20-22
Meet Privately with adolescent for portion of visit				
Encourage the adolescent to assume increasing responsibility for his / her healthcare management				
Assure the Adolescent understands his / her condition				
Assure the Adolescent understands medications / treatments				
Provide general short-term / long-term health guidance and goals				
Review medical records / history				
Address copies of reports, letters, and tests to adolescent and parent / caregiver				
Address copies of reports, letters, tests to adolescent				
Provide anticipatory guidance				
Nutrition, weight, and fitness				
Safety, substance abuse, and smoking				
Mental health / behavioral health				
Relationships, gender, and sexuality				
Reproductive health				
Confidentiality / consent				
Assess the adolescent's and the family's readiness for transfer to an adult healthcare provider				
Initiate discussion about transfer to an adult primary care provider				
Outline differences of adult care				
Discuss healthcare coverage / Insurance				
Identify possible adult care providers				
Encourage adolescent and caregiver to meet & interview adult providers				
Initiate communication with adult primary care provider selected				
Implement the transfer to an adult primary care provider				
Plan transfer				
Prepare medical summary				
Discuss nuances of care with adult primary care provider				
Follow-up with adolescent, parent / caregiver, and primary care provider after the transfer				



## Rhode Island Department of Health Pediatric to Adult Healthcare Transition Guidance & Checklist

### **About the Transition Guidance & Checklist**

The Rhode Island Department of Health and the Rhode Island Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics have developed the Pediatric to Adult Healthcare Transition Guidance and Checklist. The Guidance & Checklist are based on national standards of practice and provide a roadmap of the transition of a youth from pediatric to adult healthcare.

#### Note to the Physician

The goal of the checklist is to assist primary care physicians in the process of transition by presenting important action steps and a corresponding timeline. This tool will benefit all adolescents in your practice; however, we would strongly recommend its use for youth with special health care needs. It is important to remember that several transitions are occurring in the youth's life as they move toward independence. For instance, if the youth is receiving special education, the school district is addressing social / educational / vocational transitions. As the primary care physician, you are in a unique position to encourage youth to manage their own healthcare, discover their own identity, and achieve independence.

#### **Considerations to a Successful Transition**

- ➤ Understanding one's disability or condition
- > Identifying a strong support network
- > Communication and learning *how* to advocate for oneself
- > Educational / vocational readiness and planning
- > Organizing & maintaining important documents and records
- > Understanding health insurance benefits and options
- ➤ Knowing at 18 years of age, the adolescent is presumed to be an adult and responsible for understanding risks and benefits in order to make decisions about healthcare

#### **Local and national resources:**

www.health.ri.gov - Rhode Island Department of Health, Disabilities & Health Program

www.socialsecurity.gov -Social Security Administration

www.ripin.org - Rhode Island Parent Information Network (RIPIN)

www.ridlc.org - Rhode Island Disability Law Center-Protection and Advocacy / Guardianship Information

www.hrtw.org -Healthy and Ready to Work Resource Center

www.ncset.org -National Center on Secondary Education and Transition

www.cdc.gov -Centers for Disease Control (CDC)

www.youthhood.org -where childhood meets adulthood on the web, a site for teens & adults

http://rhodeisland.networkofcare.org/mh/home/index.cfm -Information concerning behavioral healthcare

www.ride.ri.gov/special populations - Transition Coordinators / Educational Collaborative

www.ors.ri.gov -Department of Human Services, Office of Rehabilitation Services-Benefits Assistance

www.ahrq.gov/consumer/insuranc.htm -Agency for Health Insurance Research and Quality

www.sherlockcenter.org - Paul V. Sherlock Center on Disabilities, Community Based Employment

www.iwannaknow.org -American Social Health Association website for teens